

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated January 22, 2003. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 17-22 were pending in this application. Claims 23-27 are added by this amendment. Claims 17 and 25 are independent claims. In the Office Action, Claims 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,311,175 to Waldman ("Waldman"). Claims 17-22 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over Claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,923,267.

In response to the double patenting rejection, a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321(c) is enclosed herewith. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that this ground for rejection be withdrawn.

With regard to Waldman, it is respectfully submitted that Waldman does not disclose or suggest awaiting sensing of a subsequent confirmatory user manifestation with respect to the function invoking element; recognizing passage of a predetermined period of time during which said awaiting has occurred; and providing information relevant to the use of the

element upon such recognizing as required by Claim 17. In fact, it has been previously recognized in a parent patent application that Waldman "does not fairly teach or suggest an input processing system which includes, among other things, the step of providing an identification of the function of the element upon recognizing the passage of time after a key has been sensed but not yet activated." (See, the Notice of Allowance mailed December 22, 1998 in the parent patent application No. 09/090,002, now issued as Patent No. 5,923,267).

In addition, Waldman does not disclose or suggest (emphasis provided) "awaiting detection of a subsequent selection action by the user with respect to the function invoking element; recognizing passage of a predetermined period of time during which said awaiting has occurred; and providing an identification of the function of the element upon such recognizing" as required by newly submitted Claim 25.

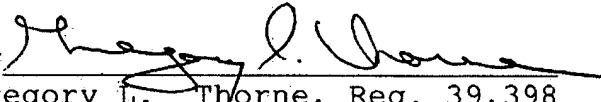
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that each of Claims 17 and 25 are allowable over Waldman and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-24 and 26-27 respectively depend from one of Claims 17 and 25 and accordingly are allowable for at least these reasons as well as for the separately patentable elements contained therein. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of Claims 18-24 and 26-27 is respectfully requested.

Applicant has made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

It is hereby certified that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On May 22, 2003

By Natale DeManzo